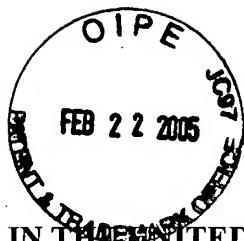


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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: LEAKE *et al.* Examiner: BOWMAN, Amy Hudson  
Serial No.: 10/613,077 Group Art Unit: 1635  
Filed: July 1, 2003  
For: "Stabilized Polynucleotides for use in RNA Interference"  
Customer No.: 23719

Kalow & Springut LLP  
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10022

February 18, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION AND RESTRICTION**

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the restriction requirement mailed on January 27, 2005 in connection with the above-captioned matter. This response is being filed on February 18, 2005, and thus is timely filed.

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**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
(Signature)

Angel Matos  
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

2/18/05  
(Date)